HF Happenings 977

Dennis and Carina are out with their caravan! The 10 m DX-Wire mast is up with the long-wire antenna and the Yaesu FT-817 connected. The FT-857 is resting in the car. I see there is a SOTA about 17 minutes' drive from the camp site.

We wish you and your family a Blessed Christmas.

Manners, manners

I was listening on 7,090 this morning (22 December) while ZS3VDK was working stations. A ZS4 worked them, then a ZS2 in Div 6 and then a ZS6 in Div 4 took over the band, not concerned with the previous QSOs – he had to chat to the ZS2! This is bad manners!

SAQ Christmas Transmission

The Swedish VLF transmitter in Grimeton schedules a Christmas transmission for 24 December on 17,2 kHz. Initial tune-up is due to begin on 07:30 UTC, with the transmission proper following at 08:00 UTC. There will also be a live stream on YouTube. On 23 December, the operators are planning a test transmission between 12:00 and 15:00 UTC. The amateur radio station SK6SAQ will be on the air on 24 December on 80, 40 and 20 m (CW and SSB). Visit https://alexander.n.se/en/saq-scheduled-for-a-transmission-on-christmas-eve-december-24th/ for all the information.

December
21 - Summer Solstice at 17:59 CAT
21 and 22 – the Ursids MS
25 – Christmas Day
26 – Family Day
27 – Public Holiday
31 - End of YOTA Month, CQ DX Marathon and the Bands Alive Ultra-Marathon

January
1 – New Year's Day; start of the 2022 CQ DX Marathon; the SAMOC Straight Key night
12 - Inland schools open
14 to 16 – the PEARS National VHF/UHF contest
19 - Coastal schools open; SARL 80 m Club Contest
22 - Summer QRP Contest
26 - Sandton ARC Talking Tech Power Hour on 145.700/Echolink at 19:00
31 Closing date for AGM Motions and Award Nominations

Wireless History: Jack Phillips, Heroism and Missteps Clash Aboard the "Unsinkable" Steamship

Jack Phillips, Titanic senior wireless operator, turned 25 on 11 April 1912, one day after the Titanic sailed out of Southampton harbour. He is primarily remembered for his nonstop efforts to alert nearby vessels of the ship's sinking using its Marconi radio which, undoubtedly, saved hundreds of lives, although, sadly, not his own.

But Phillips was also very overworked. He received not one, but two wireless messages from other vessels warning the Titanic of the threat of icebergs in the waters ahead but failed to pass them on to the bridge. Instead, he remained focused on handling passenger messages to family and friends,

an overwhelming, time consuming and, arguably, less significant task than warning higher-ups of impending dangers.

However, it was Phillips and Harold Bride, junior wireless operator, who against strict orders took the initiative to repair the Titanic's wireless equipment just one day before catastrophe hit. Aware of an issue with a component of the wireless system that was causing a decrease in power output, Phillips and Bride decided to attempt a fix, an action forbidden for wireless operators according to the Marconi Manual and one meant only for the Marconi engineers back at port.

Regardless, the young Phillips and Bride decided to break the rules and subsequently saved many lives. Phillips worked through his allotted sleep time with Bride to "troubleshoot" the issue and after hours of work remedied the problem on the afternoon of 14 April, only hours before iceberg and steamship would collide. The fix allowed later communication to the Carpathia, the closest vessel to the Titanic and a life-saving rescue for hundreds of waterborne passengers.

The Carpathia's wireless operator Harold Cottam, whose fortuitous transmission to Phillips and subsequent persistence in alerting the Carpathia's captain about the Titanic's situation led to many lives being saved.

Mount Athos, SV2RSG/A

Monk Iakovos, SV2RSG/A was active from 30 November to 3 December and has been active again since 14 December. A pirate station - "whose signal", according to the Hellenic Radio Amateur Team, "comes from a specific geographical area of Greece" - has been on the air too, causing much confusion. The genuine SV2RSG/A is now posting the log to Club Log every two hours: check https://clublog.org/logsearch/SV2RSG/A if you suspect you have worked a pirate. QSL via Club Log's OQRS, or direct to SV1RP.

New Low-Power Limit for ARRL HF Contests Starting 1 January 2022

Effective 1 January 2022, the power output limit for low-power categories has been lowered from 150 watts PEP to 100 W PEP. With the exception of ARRL Field Day, this change is in effect for all ARRL-sponsored HF contests as well as the IARU World HF Championship.

This change has been implemented to standardize the low-power categories in the contesting community. Additionally, the previous 150 W limit is no longer applicable to low power contest categories because most modern HF transceivers only have a power output of 100 W or less.

The 2022 DX Ultra-Marathon

The True Blue DXers Club announces the 2022 DX Ultra-Marathon, a year-long operating event to be run from 1 January to 31 December 2022. Intended to promote everyday activity on CW and SSB, this initiative's aim is to get people on the air and contact as many different stations as possible, on as many bands as possible, in as many DXCC Entities and WAZ Zones as possible over the duration of a full year. Participation is open to all amateurs, see https://www.tbdxc.net/marathon for detailed information.

World Radiosport Team Championship 2022

The WRTC 2022 Committee has announced a first time ever award, promoting World Radiosport Team Championship 2022. Starting on 1 January and concluding 10 July 2022, over 100 Italian operators will activate special WRTC call signs, one for each Italian call area. These special WRTC call signs will also be active during some contests, concluding with the 2022 IARU HF World Championship.

Each participant's QSO totals and award hunter scores will be displayed on a real-time leader board at www.wrtc2022.it/award. Each participant will be able to download the award in digital format at the end of the event. Read the full rules at www.wrtc2022.it/award.

Exploring N1MM+'s Statistics

The Spokane DX Association is presenting a workshop on 30 December via Zoom entitled *Exploring N1MM+'s Statistics: Tools to Improve Your Score Next Time*, presented by Randy Foltz, K7TQ. *N1MM+* has several tools to help you see how you did in the current contest so that you can do better next time. The workshop will cover the following topics:

- How to find the number of hours you operated
- How to create a rate sheet
- Find how many QSOs from each of the zones you worked
- See your split between Running and S&Ping
- In a Multop contest, how many QSOs each of you made

The workshop will start at 19:00 PST 30 December – 05:00 CAT on 31 December. The Zoom conference link will be active at 18:45 PST – 04:45 CAT. Meeting ID: 869 0822 7967 and Passcode: 56208. https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86908227967?pwd=UENncDJrTy9VQnhQR3lRaXpDTXgvUT09.

The workshop will be recorded and available a few days after the presentation on the Spokane DX YouTube Channel. Participants are reminded to change the displayed name to their name and call sign, and to keep their audio muted unless asking a question or making a statement to the group. For more information, contact Mel Ming, N7GCO at teammel@gmail.com.

DX from Africa

Africa is closed for the holiday season!

Contest Calendar

This week's contests as compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 20 to 27 December 2021.

CW QRS Xmas Activity
00:00 UTC 20 December to 23:59 UTC 7 January
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op
Exchange: RST, name and QTH
Work stations: Once per band per day
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO last at least 5 minutes; 1 additional point per QSO for each QSO minute beyond 5
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 14 January 2022
E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at:
https://cwqrs.pythonanywhere.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: https://cwqrs.it/en/xmas-activity-2021-rules/

K1USN Slow Speed Test
00:00 - 01:00 UTC 20 December
Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts;
QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Maximum 20 wpm - Name and
state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each state/province/country once
per band; W/VE do not count as country mults
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 22 December 2021
Post log summary at:
http://www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.k1usn.com/sst.html

MALI AT WAR AND PEACE

OK1WC Memorial (MWC)
16:30 - 17:29 UTC 20 December
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide

Bands: 80, 40 m
Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP or low; Single
Op Single Band - QRP or low
Max power: LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: RST and serial no
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each last character of worked
station call suffix once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults
Submit logs by: 06:00 UTC 24 December 2021
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at: https://memorial-
ok1wc.cz/index.php?page=logs
Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: https://memorial-
ok1wc.cz/index.php?page=rules2l

Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest
01:00 - 01:59 UTC 21 December
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high
Overlay: Youth (26 years old or younger);
Youth YL (female 26 years old or younger); YL
(female older than 26 years
Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts;
QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: RS and age group (OM, YL, Youth YL
or Youth)
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with OM; 5 points
per QSO with YL; 10 points per QSO with
Youth; 15 points per QSO with Youth YL
Multipliers: Each DXCC once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults
Submit logs by: 01:59 UTC 22 December 2021
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at: https://logs.wwsac.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: https://wwsac.com/rules.html

RTTYOPS Week Sprint
17:00 - 19:00 UTC 21 December
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: RTTY
Bands: 80, 40, 20 m
Classes: Single Op
Max operating hours: 2 hours
Exchange: other station's call, your call, serial
no and your name
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 28 December 2021
E-mail logs to: rtty-week-tuesday@rttyops.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://rttyops.com/

SKCC Sprint

00:00 - 02:00 UTC 22 December
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Awards: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m
Classes: Single-Op (QRPp/QRP/QRO/QRO plus)
Multi-Op
Max power: QRO plus: >100 watts; QRO: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts; QRPp: 1 watt
Exchange: RST and state, province or country and Name and (SKCC No./"NONE")
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once
Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 24 December 2021
E-mail log summary to: (none)
Post log summary at:
http://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekday_sprint/submit-display.php
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekday_sprint/

NAQCC CW Sprint
01:30 - 03:30 UTC 22 December
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40, 20 m
Classes: (none)
Max power: 1 watt
Exchange: RST, state, province or country and NAQCC no or power
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member
Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once
Key Type Mult: 2 x if straight key, 1.5 x if bug, 1 x if other
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x key type mult
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 26 December 2021
E-mail logs to: naqcc33@windstream.net
jcoreyc@gmail.com

Upload log at:
http://naqcc.info/sprint_submit_log.html
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
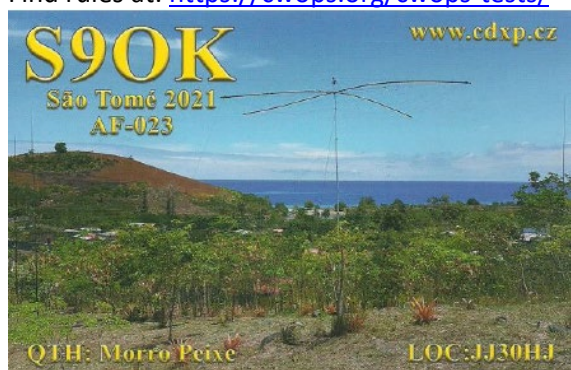http://naqcc.info/scoreboard.php?sprint_name=202112mw

Phone Weekly Test – Fray
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 22 December
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 24 December 2021
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
http://www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf

CWops Mini-CWT Test
13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 22 December and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC and 07:00 - 08:00 UTC 23 December
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Awards: Worldwide
Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts;
QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Member: Name and member no or
"CWA"; non-Member: Name and state,
province or country
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each call once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults
Submit logs by: 08:00 UTC 25 December 2021
Post log summary at:
http://www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: https://cwops.org/cwops-tests/

RTTYOPS Week Sprint
17:00 - 19:00 UTC 23 December
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide

Bands: 80, 40, 20 m
Classes: Single Op
Max operating hours: 2 hours
Exchange: other station's call, your call, serial
no and your name
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 30 December 2021
E-mail logs to: rtty-week-
thursday@rttyops.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://rttyops.com/

EACW Meeting
19:00 - 20:00 UTC 23 December
Geographic Focus: Spain

Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40 m
Classes: Single Op
Exchange: EACW Member: RST, member no
and nickname; EA non-Member: RST,
nickname and EA province; non-EA: RST,
nickname and DXCC prefix
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 25 December 2021
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
https://www.eacwspain.es/subir-puntuacion-
meeting/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
https://www.eacwspain.es/eacwmeeting/

NCCC RTTY Sprint
01:45 - 02:15 UTC 24 December
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: RTTY
Bands: (see rules)
Classes: (none)
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults
Submit logs by: 26 December 2021
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
http://www.3830scores.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html

NCCC Sprint
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 24 December
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: (see rules)
Classes: (none)
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults
Submit logs by: 26 December 2021

E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
http://www.3830scores.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

K1USN Slow Speed Test
20:00 - 21:00 UTC 24 December
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts;
QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Maximum 20 wpm - Name and
state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each state/province/country once
per band; W/VE do not count as country mults
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC December 26, 2021
Post log summary at:
http://www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.k1usn.com/sst.html

Gedebage CW Contest
12:00 UTC 25 December to 11:59 UTC 26
December
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op All Band - low or high; Single
Op Single Band - QRP, low or high; Multi-Op -
low or high
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts;
QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: RST and serial no
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same
country; 2 points per QSO with different
country same continent; 3 points per QSO with
different continent
Multipliers: Each prefix once per band; Each
DXCC country once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults
Submit logs by: 11:59 UTC 9 January 2022
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at: http://olkb.or.id/gedebage-
contest/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://olkb.or.id

RAEM Contest
00:00 - 11:59 UTC 26 December
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op All Band - low or high; Single
Op Single Band; Multi-Single; SWL
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts
Exchange: Serial no, latitude (degs only),
hemisphere, longitude (degs only) and
hemisphere (see rules) N=North, S=South,
W=West, O=East (e.g. 57N 85O)
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 50 points and 1 point for every
degree difference in geo location, both latitude
and longitude; QSO with Polar station: 100
points additional; QSO with RAEM Memorial
Station: 300 points additional
Multipliers: Polar stations multiply total QSO
points by 1.1
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points
Submit logs by: 9 January 2022
E-mail logs to: raem@srr.ru
Upload log at: http://ua9qcq.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: https://raem.srr.ru/rules/

DARC Christmas Contest
08:30 - 10:59 UTC 26 December
Geographic Focus: Germany
Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW, SSB
Bands: 80, 40 m
Classes: Single Op – CW, SSB or mixed - low or high
Max operating hours: 2,5 hours
Max power: HP: >100 W; LP: <=100 W
Exchange: DL: RS(T) and DOK (or "NM" if not a DARC member) non-DL: RS(T) and QSO no
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: DOK, once per band; Prefixes, once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 2 January 2022
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at: http://www.darc.de/der-club/referate/conteste/weihnachtswettbewerb/logupload/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: https://www.darc.de/der-club/referate/conteste/weihnachtswettbewerb/en/

K1USN Slow Speed Test
00:00 - 01:00 UTC 27 December
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Maximum 20 wpm - Name and state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each state/province/country once per band; W/VE do not count as country mults
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 29 December 2021

Post log summary at: http://www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.k1usn.com/sst.html

QCX Challenge
13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 27 December and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 28 December
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: HP: >5 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, name, state, province or country and rig
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 3 points per QSO with QCX station; 1 point per QSO with non-QCX station
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 2 January 2022
Post log summary at: http://www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.qrp-labs.com/party.html

OK1WC Memorial (MWC)
16:30 - 17:29 UTC 27 December
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40 m
Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP or low; Single Op Single Band - QRP or low
Max power: LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: RST and serial no
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each last character of worked station call suffix once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 06:00 UTC 31 December 2021
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at: https://memorial-ok1wc.cz/index.php?page=logs
Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: https://memorial-ok1wc.cz/index.php?page=rules2l

Next Week's Contests

Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest, 01:00 - 01:59 UTC 28 December
RTTYOPS Week Sprint, 17:00 - 19:00 UTC 28 December
QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 29 December
Phone Weekly Test – Fray, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 29 December
CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 29 December and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC and 07:00 - 08:00 UTC 30 December
YOTA Contest, 12:00 - 23:59 UTC 30 December
RTTYOPS Week Sprint, 17:00 - 19:00 UTC 30 December
EACW Meeting, 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 30 December
NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 31 December
QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 31 December
NCCC Sprint, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 31 December
Bogor Old and New Contest, 09:00 - 23:59 UTC 31 December
K1USN Slow Speed Test, 20:00 - 21:00 UTC 31 December
AGB New Year Snowball Contest, 00:00 - 01:00 UTC 1 January
SARTG New Year RTTY Contest, 08:00 - 11:00 UTC 1 January
AGCW Happy New Year Contest, 09:00 - 12:00 UTC 1 January
WW PMC Contest 12:00 UTC, 1 January to 12:00 UTC 2 January
Original QRP Contest, 15:00 UTC 1 January to 15:00 UTC 2 January
QRP ARCI New Year's Sprint, 15:00 - 18:00 UTC 1 January
ARRL Kids Day, 18:00 - 23:59 UTC 1 January
K1USN Slow Speed Test, 00:00 - 01:00 UTC 3 January
OK1WC Memorial, 16:30 - 17:29 UTC 3 January
Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest, 01:00 - 01:59 UTC 4 January
ARS Spartan Sprint, 02:00 - 04:00 UTC 4 January
RTTYOPS Week Sprint, 17:00 - 19:00 UTC 4 January

Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, Southgate ARC News and the Amateur Radio Newsletter